

BOROUGH OF FARNWORTH

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT
1970

ELLIS TAYLOR :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

W. J. WOLSTENHOLME :

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

BOROUGH OF FARNWORTH

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT
1970

ELLIS TAYLOR :

W. J. WOLSTENHOLME :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Mayor (COUNCILLOR L. HASLAM) ex-officio

Chairman:

Councillor E. BROWN (Mrs.) C.C.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor H. BRINDLE

Members:

Alderman J. A. DEAN

Alderman J. W. GEERE, J.P., C.A.

Councillor C. B. CALLAGHAN, J.P.

Councillor B. COOTE

Councillor W. F. MELLING

Councillor V. E. ROYLE

Councillor L. SHARPLES

Councillor N. TOPPING

Councillor J. WILD

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

ELLIS TAYLOR, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

W. J. WOLSTENHOLME, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

C. L. GARSIDE, M.A.P.H.I.

(Resigned 31/12/70).

Additional Public Health Inspector:

W. B. LLOYD, M.A.P.H.I.

Technical Assistant:

J. POWELL

Clerks:

Mrs. M. M. TAYLOR.

Mrs. C. L. SHARP

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area	1,504 statute acres
Population	26,340 Estimated mid-1970
	27,474 Census 1961
Number of Inhabited Houses, Census 1931	7,104
Number of Inhabited Houses, Census 1961	9,119
Number of Inhabited Houses, Estimated 1970	9,304
Rateable Value	£774,297
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£2,950

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FARNWORTH

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1970. For yet another year the Department has retained its inspectorial staff complete, which undoubtedly has reflected in the great amount of skilled work that has been achieved.

Perusal of the facts and figures reveal a better than average healthwise town. Environmentally, there are now good reasons to anticipate that the town is now poised to contemplate as a reality a breakthrough in its slum clearance and clean air programmes. It would be a tragedy if this momentum was allowed to falter.

I acknowledge the help and encouragement given by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and the loyal co-operation of the staff of the Health Department.

ELLIS TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1970

	<i>Farnworth</i>			<i>England & Wales (Total)</i>
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Estimated mid-year home population	—	—	26,340	48,987,700
Live Births:				
Total	254	227	481	784,482
Legitimate	228	211	439	719,738
Illegitimate	26	16	42	64,744
Stillbirths:				
Total	7	5	12	10,341
Legitimate	7	5	12	9,297
Illegitimate	—	—	—	1,044
Total Live & Still Births:				
Total	261	232	493	794,823
Legitimate	235	216	451	729,035
Illegitimate	26	16	42	65,788
Deaths of Infants:				
Under 1 year of age.				
Total	2	3	5	14,269
Legitimate	1	3	4	12,592
Illegitimate	1	—	1	1,677
Under 4 weeks of age.				
Total	2	2	4	9,663
Legitimate	1	2	3	8,548
Illegitimate	1	—	1	1,115
Under 1 week of age.				
Total	2	2	4	8,328
Legitimate	1	2	3	7,343
Illegitimate	1	—	1	985
Deaths—all ages:	216	218	434	575,208

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1970

	<i>Farnworth</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Live Birth Rates, etc.		
Livebirths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	18.3	16.0
Area comparability factor	1.10	1.00
Local adjusted rate	20.1	16.0
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.26	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	9	8
Stillbirth Rate:		
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and still births	24	13
Infant Mortality Rates:		
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	10	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	9	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	24	26
Neonatal Mortality Rate:		
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	8	12
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate:		
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	8	11
Perinatal Mortality Rate:		
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	32	23
Death Rates, etc.—All Ages:		
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	16.5	11.7
Area comparability factor .....	.88	1.00
Local adjusted rate	14.5	11.7
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.24	1.00

In spite of a natural increase of total births over deaths (47), the Registrar General estimated that the mid-year population had declined by 220 since last year. Owing to the impact of slum clearance the number of inhabited houses also declined by 175 but building in the pipeline should soon correct this. The birth rate increased to an adjusted figure of 20.1—well above the national rate and there were additionally 12 stillbirths. Four out of the five infant deaths occurred in the first week of life due to congenital causes which in the state of our present knowledge would be considered unpreventable. The infant mortality rate of 10 compares favourably with the national rate of 18 and is the lowest on record in the Borough. Taking into account the 12 stillbirths, the perinatal mortality rate of 32 compares with 26 of last year. Again no mother died in childbirth.

The 434 deaths were evenly divided between the sexes, although it will be seen that over the age of 75 the ratio was 70 males:112 females. There were 18 deaths recorded in people under the age of 45 years, and 317 in the over 65 age group. Details are enumerated in Table 1.

TABLE 1.
CAUSES OF DEATH IN ALL AGES IN 1970

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in Years								75 and over	
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-		
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Syphilis and its Sequelae ...	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ...	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ...	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate ...	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms ...	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ...	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Diabetes Mellitus ...	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ALL AGES IN 1970 (continued)

Cause of Death	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in Years								75 and over	
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-		
Endocrine etc. Diseases...	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Anaemias ...	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mental Disorders...	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Hypertensive Disease ...	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	F	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	19	13
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	15	17
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4
Other forms of Heart Disease ...	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5
	F	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	14
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	14	34
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	6
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	11
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Influenza ...	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	F	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	11
Pneumonia ...	M	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	21
	F	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	5
Bronchitis and Emphysema ...	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asthma ...	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ALL AGES IN 1970 (continued)

10

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in Years								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-
Peptic Ulcer	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System ...	M	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System ...	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ...	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ...	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Congenital Anomalies	M	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Anomalies	F	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. ...	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. ...	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions...	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions...	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
All Other Accidents	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2
All Other Accidents	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries ...	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries ...	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Other External Causes	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
All Other External Causes	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total All Causes ...	M	216	2	-	3	-	3	1	4	19	41	73	70
	F	218	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	12	27	62	112

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The incidence of notified infectious disease merits little comment. The unfortunate suspension of measles vaccination has put its usual biennial rhythm out of tune. One can hope that the reintroduction of vaccination may be allowed to wipe out the probability of further epidemics.

It is difficult to reach any dogmatic conclusions regarding whooping cough and it would be unwise to comment on 16 notified cases.

No-one dare become complacent about any of the infectious diseases—least of all the parents of young children. We have been provided with proven means of prevention against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus (lock-jaw), poliomyelitis, measles, german measles (girls only), and tuberculosis—let the fullest use be made of them NOW.

Details of infectious diseases notified during the year 1970 are given in Table 2.

TABLE 2.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1970

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Total cases at all ages	AGE PERIODS—YEARS										25 & over	Age un-known		
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-						
Measles (excluding rubella)	147	6	20	23	23	21	51	3	—	—	—				
Dysentery	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Scarlet Fever	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—				
Diphtheria	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Acute meningitis	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Acute poliomyelitis paralytic.....	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Non-paralytic ...	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
		0-	5-		15-		45-		65 & over		Age un-known				
Acute encephalitis															
Infective	Nil	—	—		—		—		—		—				
Post-infectious ...	Nil	—	—		—		—		—		—				
Leptospirosis ...	Nil	—	—		—		—		—		—				
Paratyphoid fever	Nil	—	—		—		—		—		—				
Typhoid fever	Nil	—	—		—		—		—		—				
Food poisoning.....	1	—	1		—		—		—		—				
		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	Age un-known
Tetanus	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective jaundice.....	12	—	—	—	5	—	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—
Meninges and C.N.S.	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough ...	16	1	2	2	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	Nil														
Ophthalmia neonatorum	Nil														
Anthrax	Nil														
Yellow fever ...	Nil														

No. of cases of fatal tuberculosis not notified before death—1.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND HEALTH

The town continued to be well served by many active voluntary bodies concerned with improving and maintaining the health and happiness of the community. They have all extended and consolidated their services and deserve the gratitude and appreciation of the Corporation on behalf of the townsfolk.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

There was no need to invoke this Act during the year.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE—HEARING AIDS

By arrangement with Bolton and District Hospital Management Committee, local people with National Health Service hearing aids are able to get replacement parts and batteries from Farnworth Health Department. This saves them the journey to Bolton Royal Infirmary, where they would have to go otherwise.

The number of attendances by people taking advantage of this arrangement in 1970 was 748. Since the scheme was introduced* in July, 1969 a total of 906 replacements have been made at Farnworth.

HOUSING

Further progress was made during the year in improving housing conditions in the Borough.

146 houses, of which 127 had been classified as unfit, were demolished under Clearance Area procedure. 136 new dwellings were completed, 70 by the Corporation and 66 by private builders; 36 houses were improved by their owners with the aid of Improvement Grants; and essential repairs were carried out at 121 houses under Public Health Act procedure.

It was reported last year that the number of unfit houses formally represented for clearance in 1969 (196) was the highest figure ever achieved in any one year. This record was surpassed in 1970, when eight Clearance Areas containing 339 unfit houses were put forward for approval by the Council. This brought the total of unfit houses represented for clearance since 1955 to 1,145.

As recorded in the Report for 1969, at the end of that year the Council approved a Clearance Programme covering more than 500 houses in the following areas:

Ellesmere Street
Brackley Street
Kent Street
Bridgewater Street
Westminster Street
Northumberland Street
Lee Street

Surveys and inspections of these houses were completed during the year under review, clearance representations being submitted covering all but the Lee Street area.

Most of the houses in these clearance areas are in the densely built-up part of the Town Centre bounded by Brackley Street, Kent Street, Albert Road and Market Street. When this important central area has been cleared it is to be redeveloped mainly for housing purposes. This will present a challenge to the planners, whose task will be to reconcile the conflicting demands of high density housing and open environment.

In November 1970, as the Department's work on the 1969 Clearance Programme was approaching completion, a report was submitted to the Council suggesting a further Programme covering 535 houses in the following areas:

Price Street—Elizabeth Street.
 Macdonald Street—Harcourt Street.
 Victoria Street—Georgiana Street.
 Darley Street—Peel Street.
 Penn Street—Hindley Street.

This programme was approved in December. The report also listed areas containing some 1,100 houses which would need to be considered in the longer term for clearance or improvement.

The Department's clearance activities in 1970 resulted in a record number of visits (652) by the Public Health Inspectors under this heading.

The following list shows the eight Clearance Areas submitted to the Council during the year:

Clearance Area	No. of Houses
Ellesmere Street—Kent Street	73
Arthur Street—Bridgewater Street	60
Albert Road No. 1	2
Brackley Street—Ellesmere Street	27
Brackley Street—Bridgewater Street No. 1	43
Brackley Street—Bridgewater Street No. 2	57
Ellesmere Street	2
Westminster St.—Northumberland Street	75
	<hr/>
	339
	<hr/>

The following table shows represented Clearance Areas awaiting demolition at the end of 1970:—

Clearance Area	No. of Unfit Houses	Represented	Declared	Confirmed
Princess Street	22	Jan. 1969	Mar. 1969	Sept. 1969
Cross Street	9	Jan. 1969	Mar. 1969	Sept. 1969
Princess Street/ Barncroft Road ...	10	Jan. 1969	Mar. 1969	Sept. 1969
Leigh Street	3	Apr. 1969	Aug. 1969	Jan. 1970
Lorne Street No. 1	23	Apr. 1969	Aug. 1969	Dec. 1969
Devon Street No. 1	15	Oct. 1969	Jan. 1970	Oct. 1970
Devon Street No. 2	10	Oct. 1969	Jan. 1970	Oct. 1970
Devon Street No. 3	8	Oct. 1969	Jan. 1970	Oct. 1970
Ash Street/ Spring Street	89	Nov. 1969	July 1970	—
Arthur Street/ Bridgewater Street	60	Mar. 1970	—	—
Ellesmere Street/ Kent Street	73	Mar. 1970	—	—
Ellesmere Street	2	Sept. 1970	—	—
Albert Road No. 1 ...	2	Sept. 1970	—	—
Brackley Street/ Ellesmere Street ...	27	Sept. 1970	—	—
Brackley Street/ Bridgewater St. No. 1	43	Sept. 1970	—	—
Brackley Street/ Bridgewater St. No. 2	57	Sept. 1970	—	—
Westminster Street/ Northumberland St.	75	Dec. 1970	—	—

As a result of objections being made by owners of property in the Devon Street (No.1) and the Ash Street/Spring Street Clearance Areas, public local enquiries were held by Government Inspectors in July and November. In the case of the Devon Street Area the Council's proposals were approved without modification; the Inspector decided that one property in the Ash Street/Spring Street Area, which had been classified as "unfit", should have been included as "fit".

Owners and occupiers of houses in clearance schemes are naturally sometimes uncertain as to how they will be affected, particularly about arrangements for compensation and re-housing. To alleviate this problem, an explanatory booklet was prepared by the Town Clerk during the year, for distribution to householders in clearance areas.

An endeavour was made in the year under review to set up a small pilot Housing Improvement Area scheme at Prospect Place. Unfortunately, following a survey of the area and consultations with owners and occupiers of the houses concerned, it became clear that for a number of reasons such a scheme was not practicable. The scope in Farnworth for General Housing Improvement Areas, as envisaged by the Housing Act 1969, is limited. It is hoped, however, that some progress in this field may be possible in the future, provided staff can be made available to carry out the necessary survey work. A survey of areas in the town which might be suitable for general improvement was in fact started during the year, but little progress was made because of limited staff resources.

Improvement of individual houses under the new Improvement Grant provisions of the 1969 Housing Act is a more promising prospect. The Act gives local Councils greater freedom in making grants, and this should result in more householders taking advantage of the Improvement Grant Scheme. Under previous arrangements, grants were only available for improving houses which had at least fifteen years' life and could be brought up to a fairly high standard. Now it is possible to give grants for a reduced standard of improvement in houses with ten years' life or more. There are many unimproved houses in Farnworth in this category. It seems good sense to help the owners of these houses to provide at least some of the basic amenities, for example bath and hot water.

Prior to the 1969 Act, the procedure for assessing and approving Improvement Grants was more or less standardised, fairly specific conditions governing the availability of grants being applicable in all cases. Under the 1969 Act, however, local authorities have wide discretion to vary these conditions in the light of individual circumstances, and a much greater element of flexibility has been introduced. It is confirmed Government policy that local councils should exercise their discretion freely, that arrangements should be made to give on-the-spot advice and assistance to intending applicants for grant, and that decisions on applications should be made quickly. To achieve this, a review of the administrative arrangements relating to Improvement Grants is under consideration.

The amount of time spent by the Public Health Inspectors in enforcing essential repairs to landlord-owned houses is decreasing year by year. This is to be expected, with many of the town's old rented houses being demolished under clearance schemes, and a steadily rising proportion of owner-occupied houses. Nevertheless, in 1970 the Department received 241 complaints of housing defects from tenants of landlord-owned houses, and the Inspectors made 630 visits to deal with these complaints.

In previous years this section of the Report has included several pages of housing statistics, set out in the form of statutory returns as submitted to Government Departments. This year the information is presented in a more concise form:—

1. Housing Stock

Number of privately-owned houses at 31st December, 1970	5476
Number of local authority-owned houses at 31st December, 1970:	
(a) Built by local authority	3628
(b) Acquired by local authority	200
	<hr/>
	9304
	<hr/>

2. New Houses Built

Completed in 1970:

	Houses	Flats
(a) By local authority	48	22
(b) By private builders	66	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	114	22
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	136	
	<hr/>	

3. Houses Acquired

Number of houses acquired by the local authority in 1970 (other than by Compulsory Purchase) ... 24

4. Houses Demolished

Number of unfit houses demolished in 1970	127
Number of other houses demolished in 1970 ...	19
	<hr/>
	146
	<hr/>

5. Persons Displaced by Demolition

Number of persons displaced from demolished houses in 1970	415
--	-----

6. Unfit Houses

Estimated number of unfit houses remaining at 31st December, 1970:

(a) in represented Clearance Areas	490
(b) not yet represented	632
	<hr/>
	1122
	<hr/>

7. Housing Improvements

Number of applications for Improvement Grant received in 1970	36
---	----

Number of applications for Improvement Grant approved in 1970	36
---	----

8. Repair of Privately-Owned Houses

Number of privately-owned houses repaired in 1970 as a result of action by local authority ...	121
--	-----

Table 3 shows the number of houses erected and demolished each year since 1946.

TABLE 3.

Houses (including flats) erected and demolished

Year	Erected		Demolished
	By local authority	By private builders	
1946	95	—	—
1947	164	—	—
1948	146	—	4
1949	55	—	—
1950	122	—	—
1951	38	—	—
1952	75	5	—
1953	84	9	9
1954	156	1	—
1955	102	2	13
1956	84	2	—
1957	98	10	4
1958	34	4	71
1959	—	1	3
1960	24	6	75
1961	106	58	32
1962	22	57	55
1963	51	8	102
1964	53	9	28
1965	34	48	29
1966	46	31	58
1967	58	27	59
1968	32	53	102
1969	56	119	107
1970	70	66	146
	1,805	516	897
	2,321		

CLEAN AIR

In the early days of smoke control many people were opposed to it for a variety of reasons. Indeed, the attitude of some local authorities was less than enthusiastic.

Happily, events over the last few years have shown a marked trend in favour of cleaner air, and criticism now seems to be directed at slow progress rather than haste in implementing the smoke control provisions of the Clean Air Act.

Advocates of smoke control have reason to be pleased with the results of their persistence in the face of early opposition. By the end of 1970 nearly five million premises in England were smoke-controlled, including half of all the houses in the North West "black" areas. It may be coincidence that in 1970 more hours of sunshine were recorded in south-east Lancashire than in any of the previous ten years, and that in 1970 the number of bronchitis deaths in Farnworth was the lowest since 1960, but one would like to think cleaner air had something to do with it.

It is unfortunate that in the year under review which in normal circumstances would probably have been a good year for clean air, both locally and nationally, we were badly let down by the solid smokeless fuel industry. In the summer of 1968 the industry gave clear assurances that plentiful supplies of solid smokeless fuel would be available for all existing and future smoke control areas. Yet in April 1970 the industry admitted there would be shortages in the winter of 1970-71, and for this reason authorities were advised not only to curtail their smoke control programmes, but to suspend existing smoke control orders.

This put the clean air campaign into reverse gear. Many authorities, including Farnworth, were obliged to suspend their Orders and allow the burning of smoky coal in smoke control areas. For those who have worked hard over the years to further the progress of smoke control, this was a bitter disappointment, which was not relieved by the appearance in November 1970, at a time of mounting frustration, of pronouncements by the industry claiming that shortages were being overcome and that future prospects for solid smokeless fuel were bright.

Farnworth's No. 5 Smoke Control Order, submitted to the Council in May 1970, was approved and sent to the Ministry for confirmation in October. It was scheduled to come into operation in August 1971, but because of delays in getting confirmation, the date of operation will have to be put back. Although the No. 5 Order will apply to a relatively small number of existing properties (82 houses and 75 other premises) it will cover a large area in the

Town Centre due for clearance and redevelopment. It is important that wherever possible new buildings should be smoke-controlled from the outset.

During the year further progress was made in surveying the area to be covered by the No. 6 Smoke Control Order. This is a fairly big area in the Highfield Road district which will link up with existing smoke control areas. Progress with this area, however, was delayed by uncertainties about the conversion of heating appliances in Council houses in the area, which are expected to be carried out as part of a proposed modernisation scheme.

No serious problems arose during the year from industrial air pollution. Smoke emissions from factory chimneys were minimal, although occasional trouble was experienced with some boilers operating on solid fuel, for which suitable grades of coal were at times unobtainable. This was said to be due to labour difficulties in the mining industry. The Inspectors recorded 169 industrial chimney observations during the year.

Tables 4 and 5 give measurements of air pollution taken by the Department in 1970, together with comparisons with previous years. These measurements are made daily at two sites, one of which (at Wilfred Geere House) is in the smoke-controlled part of the Borough. The figures show convincingly the reduction of pollution resulting from smoke control. Thanks are due to the Lancashire County Council for permission to operate a measuring instrument at Wilfred Geere House, and also to the South-East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee for Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution, who supply the measuring and recording equipment.

Smoke Control Orders in operation (temporarily suspended) at the end of the year were as follows:

<i>Order No.</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>No. of Premises</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Date of Operation</i>
1	Plodder Lane South	1,060	200	1st June, 1967
2	Plodder Lane North	244	145	1st July, 1968
3	Egerton St. / Harper Green	128	92	1st July, 1968
4	Harper Green / Bradford Road	1,364	175	1st Dec., 1969

TABLE 4.
Monthly Averages

Month 1970	Average of daily recordings—shown as microgrammes of pollutant per cubic metre of air			
	Smoke		Sulphur	
	Town Hall	Wilfred Geere House	Town Hall	Wilfred Geere House
January	282	124	287	186
February	166	65	182	121
March	138	61	188	115
April	88	38	132	82
May	48	28	101	73
June	37	21	127	94
July	29	14	72	47
August	50	32	112	79
September	83	43	148	92
October	115	53	150	101
November	172	79	212	123
December	239	105	250	128

TABLE 5.
Annual Averages

Year (January— December)	Smoke		Sulphur	
	Town Hall	Wilfred Geere House	Town Hall	Wilfred Geere House
1960	323	306	276	242
1961	295	308	277	309
1962	351	340	365	386
1963	275	294	302	285
1964	250	257	251	219
1965	187	193	173	160
1966	159	155	156	168
1967	149	120	155	164
1968	120	74	157	154
1969	148	45	168	70
1970	121	55	164	104

FOOD

The number of food premises of various types in the Borough are listed in Table 6. In addition to these, there are several market stalls from which food is sold.

During the year the Public Health Inspectors made 1,161 visits to food premises, in addition to visits to the slaughterhouse which are recorded in a separate section of the Report. This was about the same number as in the previous year. The visits included general inspections of shops, warehouses, restaurants, canteens, food factories, vehicles and market stalls, as well as visits to examine unsound food, to sample milk and ice-cream, to investigate complaints, and for registration purposes. The kitchens at Bolton District General Hospital were also inspected.

Regular inspection of premises used for the preparation, handling, storage and sale of food is necessary to maintain and improve standards of hygiene. The aim is to visit all premises at least once a year, but some premises require more frequent inspection.

The Food and Drugs Act of 1955 made provision for regulations to be made to secure hygienic practices in connection with the handling and sale of food. In consequence, the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations were issued in 1960, and for the past ten years these Regulations have given the necessary statutory support to Public Health Inspectors in their efforts to improve food hygiene standards. A new set of Regulations was made in 1970, operating from March 1971. The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970 include all the provisions of the earlier Regulations and contain additional requirements relating to the separation of unsound food from sound food, the protection of food from contamination, the separation of animal food from food intended for human consumption, the wearing of overalls by food handlers, and the wrapping of food. All food premises in the Borough have been supplied with a leaflet explaining the new Regulations.

During the year 17 complaints were received from members of the public in connection with food items purchased from local shops and stores. These complaints covered a variety of foods, and included rancid bacon, sour milk, extraneous matter in made-up foods, insects in food, and mouldy bread and cake. Investigations into these complaints were made either by the Farnworth Public Health Inspectors or by the Public Health Officers of the Lancashire County Council, who are responsible for enforcing the Food and Drugs Act provisions relating to the nature, substance, or quality of food. Appropriate action was taken in all cases. In one instance, in which part of a spider was found in potato chips, the offender was prosecuted, convicted, and fined £25 with £10.35 costs.

The development of pre-packing in the food trade has, of course, been of great benefit to the cause of food hygiene. Its widespread use suggests, also, that it has commercial advantages. It has, however, brought problems, especially in the field of perishable or "short-life" foods. For some time, manufacturers of these foods have been putting code marks on their packs, indicating (to the trade but not to the consumer) either the date of manufacture or the date by which the product should be sold. In a very few instances, manufacturers use an "open" date, for example a package of bacon might be labelled "To be used by 14th June, 1970". The "secret" codes are only of practical value when the retailer knows what they mean and is prepared to act upon that knowledge. Experience has shown that all too often he does not. Many retailers are lax in applying stock-rotation systems. The trade sees difficulties in using an "open-date" marking system. These difficulties can be exaggerated. It is not unknown for a manufacturer to mark his products with an open expiry date for some of his retail outlets, but with a "secret" code for others. If some retailers can meet the "difficulties" why cannot others? How is a housewife to tell, when she buys a sponge cake on the 3rd of August marked 0607, that it is four weeks old?

During the year under review the new market trading area of the Town Centre Redevelopment Scheme came into operation. From the food hygiene point of view this was an important step forward. Modern shops and enclosed kiosks, each provided with washing arrangements and toilets, and designed to facilitate the storage, preparation and display of food under hygienic conditions, took the place of shabby, out-dated wooden huts. In the open section of the market, set out on a newly-surfaced, well-drained area, about a hundred new stalls have replaced a motley collection of dilapidated structures. The transformation is completed by a new Market Amenity Block, which includes toilet and washing accommodation for the open market traders, a well-equipped vegetable preparation room, office and storage facilities, and a refuse bay. Altogether a great improvement on the unsatisfactory arrangements previously in use.

Under a Council decision made some years ago, traders on the open market stalls are not allowed to sell unwrapped food (except fruit and vegetables). This is a sensible rule, and in enforcing it the Public Health Inspectors are grateful for the ready co-operation of the Market staff and the traders themselves.

As stated in last year's Report, a further essential requirement in modernising the busy Town Centre food-trading area is rebuilding of the old fish-market stalls, which can be truly

described as relics of the past. Plans are being made for this to be done; it is hoped they will soon be implemented.

During the year 137 visits were made to warehouses and shops to examine food as to its fitness for human consumption. The total amount found to be unfit was 12,198 lbs., made up as follows:

Meat	570 lbs.
Canned foods	10286 lbs.
Frozen foods	677 lbs.
Other foods	665 lbs.

This was surrendered to the Inspectors and destroyed.

There were 15 food hawkers registered to trade in the Borough at the end of the year.

Enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act provisions concerning adulteration and labelling of foodstuffs is the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council, whose officers took 148 samples in the Borough in 1970. Details of these samples are given in Table 7.

TABLE 6.
FOOD PREMISES IN DISTRICT AT THE END OF 1970

<i>Type of business</i>	(a) No. of premises	(b) No. of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16. (Wash-hand basins)	(c) No. of premises to which Regula- tion 19 applies (Sinks).	(d) No. of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19.
(i) Grocers and provision dealers	84	84	84	84
(ii) Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.) ...	15	15	15	15
(iii) Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc.)	3	3	3	3
(iv) Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.)	29	29	29	29
(v) Bakers and/or confectioners	29	29	29	29
(vi) Fried fish shops	25	25	25	25
(vii) Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.	36	36	33	33
(viii) Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, res- taurants, cafes, snack bars, and similar catering establishments	70	70	70	70

TABLE 7.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Particulars of samples taken during the year 1970:

Milk	91
Other articles	57

The 57 other articles comprised:—

1 Sausage	1 Polony
1 Potato Chips	1 Fresh Apples
1 Soft Drink, canned	1 Parsley Sauce Mix
1 Pineapples, canned	1 Ice Cream
1 Low Fat Soft Cheese	1 Ice Lollies
1 Butter	1 Cremosuxidine Suspension
3 Lard	1 Dolalgin Tablets
1 Plain Flour	1 Sweets
1 Fruit Yoghourt	1 Butter Mints
1 Low Fat Spread	1 Cornish Pasty Filling, canned
1 Flour Confectionery	1 Margarine
1 Hamburgers, canned	1 Beefburgers, frozen
1 Pork Luncheon Meat, canned	1 Cornish Pasties
1 Cochineal	1 Almond Essence
1 Rum	1 Coconut Macaroon
3 Whisky	1 Corn Oil
1 Gin	1 Beetroot, cooked
1 Brandy	1 Flour Confectionery
1 Fish Fingers	1 Meat Pie, part of
1 Chicken Spread	1 Jam
1 Sterilised Cream	1 Mincemeat
1 Tomato Juice, canned	1 Table Jelly
1 Headache Tablets	1 Wholemeal Crispbread
1 Fish, canned	2 Tuna Fish, canned
1 Shandy, canned	1 Soup Mix
1 Salmon Spread	1 Tea

Details are given below of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Formal Milk	Freezing point indicated 0.1% extraneous water.	Dairy cautioned. Further sample obtained.

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
Sausage	Contained a third of a gramme (dry weight) of coarse cardboard intimately entangled with the pork sausage meat.	Complainant informed and manufacturer cautioned.
Potato Chips	Contained the greater part of a dead spider measuring 11 millimetres in length.	Prosecution. Fined £25. Costs £10.35
Fruit Yoghourt	Fat content only 1.0% should be labelled "low fat" yoghourt.	Producers advised.
Fish Fingers	Fish content 63% present; slightly low in fish content.	No action advised.
Beetroot, cooked	No label. Contained 1% of acetic acid thus making the food "pickled beetroot" rather than "whole cooked beetroot" and therefore subject to the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order.	Packers communicated with.
Meat Pie, part of	The dead body of a wasp submitted with the part pie had been cooked but it was entire and nothing could be found to associate it with the remains of the pie.	Manufacturer cautioned and complainant informed.
Flour Confectionery	The fly submitted with the sample was an ichneumon fly weighing 4 milligrams. It was in pieces and its original position in the cake could not be determined. It had not been heated enough to remove phosphatases in the tissues.	Bakery inspected for flour moth infestation and complainant informed.
Informal Milk	Fat 2.30% Deficient 23.3%.	Formal sample obtained.

MILK

At the end of the year there were 162 milk distributors on the Department's register. Most of these are shopkeepers selling sterilised milk. There are only three dairy farmers in the Borough.

During the year officers of the Lancashire County Council, the statutory licensing authority, took 91 milk samples in the Borough. These were examined for quality and bacteriological purity. In addition, 4 milk samples were taken by the Department's Inspectors and submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory. All gave satisfactory results.

The dairy industry, like many others, has changed considerably and will continue to do so. On many farms milk is piped straight from the cows into cold storage tanks, thence by tanker-vehicles to factory-dairies to be heat treated and processed into pasteurised, sterilised, "long-life" or homogenised milk. Non-returnable containers are replacing glass bottles. Sales of fresh cream and fat-free milk powder are increasing. Developments can be expected in the production of low-fat-content ("two per cent") milk, already marketed in considerable quantities in the U.S.A., Canada, and on the Continent.

Last year's Report anticipated the issue of new regulations controlling the quality and description of cream. These regulations (The Cream Regulations, 1970) duly appeared in the year under review. They specify minimum standards of fat content for various categories of cream and require the cream to be labelled accordingly. The labelling provisions also require cream to be described as "pasteurised", "ultra-heat-treated" or "untreated".

ICE-CREAM

At the end of the year the register of premises used for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream contained the names of 2 manufacturers and 157 dealers. Most of the dealers are shopkeepers selling pre-packed ice-cream produced by large national manufacturers.

During the year eleven samples of ice-cream were taken by the Inspectors and submitted for bacteriological examination. All the results were satisfactory, ten samples being grade 1 and one grade 2.

MEAT INSPECTION

The slaughter of animals for human consumption continued throughout the year at a small private slaughterhouse, the only one in the Borough. In accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, the carcasses and organs of all animals slaughtered were examined by the Public Health Inspectors at, or soon after, the time of slaughter. As in previous years, the animals were of good quality and little evidence of disease was found.

Although the total number of animals slaughtered in 1970 (2,578) was slightly less than in the previous year, the number of visits to the slaughterhouse by the Inspectors increased from 409 to 496.

In spite of the slaughterhouse premises being old and badly sited, reasonable standards of cleanliness and maintenance of buildings and equipment were complied with, and the slaughterhouse was operated in a generally satisfactory way.

Details of animals slaughtered and disease found are shown in Table 8.

TABLE 8.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

Carcases inspected and incidence of disease

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	450	Nil	98	2030	Nil	Nil
Number inspected	450	Nil	98	2030	Nil	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :-						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	30	Nil	Nil	5	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ...	6.6%	Nil	Nil	.24%	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis only:—						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cysticercosis:—						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

WATER SUPPLY

Every house in the town has a piped supply of mains water supplied by Bolton Corporation. The water is derived from upland gathering grounds and is filtered and treated before going into supply. It is soft in nature and satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Samples of both raw and filtered water are regularly subjected to full bacteriological examination and chemical analysis. Special examinations and analyses are made as circumstances require.

During 1970, 671 samples of raw water were taken for bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis, and 24 for full chemical analysis in the statutory area of supply. In addition, 1,573 samples of filtered and treated water received bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis, and 31 full chemical analysis. Results showed that the filtered and treated water was of excellent quality, B. Coli being absent in 98.00% of the potable water samples tested. All water is treated before passing into supply.

No special action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination. From tests made the water was shown to have no significant plumbo-solvent action.

The following extensions and renewals of water main were carried out in 1970:

Size of Main	Existing Property	New Property	Other Development	Renewals
2"	56 yards	1253 yards	135 yards	—
3"	—	183 yards	—	151 yards

PUBLIC BATHS

The town's Public Baths are almost eighty years old. Although a new water filtration plant was installed in 1955, the swimming pool reconstructed in 1958, improvements made to slipper baths in 1962, and boiler replacements carried out in 1962 and 1970, the Baths are approaching the limit of their economic life and plans for new Baths are being made.

In 1970 there were 78,226 admissions to the swimming pool, nearly 15,000 fewer than in 1969. The reason for this decrease was that the Baths were closed for several weeks in July and August for a new boiler to be installed. There was a similar decrease (from 11,728 to 9,119) in the number of people using the slipper baths.

During the year 19 samples of water were taken from the swimming pool and submitted for bacteriological examination. All the results were satisfactory.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

All sanitary accommodation in the Borough is on the fresh water system. There are no waste water closets or pail closets.

SEWERAGE

The town's sewage is piped to the Bolton and District Sewage Board's works at Ringley, where it is treated to an acceptable standard of purification before being discharged into the river Irwell. Much of the town's main sewerage system has been renewed in recent years, but certain lengths of sewer have been affected by subsidence and need reconstruction. Plans for this work are in hand.

DRAINAGE

All new drainage schemes are supervised by the Corporation's Building Inspector. Alterations and repairs to existing drainage are dealt with by the Public Health Inspectors. Where practicable, all new drainage work is subjected to smoke or water test before approval. During the year, 335 visits were made by Health Department staff in connection with drainage works.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Corporation's Cleansing Services are controlled by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

Weekly collections of domestic refuse were maintained throughout most of the year, and trade refuse from commercial and industrial premises was collected as often as necessary.

In addition, many special collections of discarded household items too bulky to go in the dustbin—furniture, prams, etc.,—were made. The Cleansing Staff were also called upon to remove numerous accumulations of rubbish of all kinds, wantonly deposited on spare ground and in back streets and yards of empty houses in various parts of the Borough. This dumping is quite unnecessary—the Cleansing Department will remove domestic rubbish free on request from any household.

About 11,000 dustbins were emptied each week and a total of some 7,250 tons of refuse was collected and disposed of during the year.

A survey carried out by the Cleansing staff showed that about 400 premises had defective or unsuitable dustbins. This was drawn to the attention of the property-owners concerned, resulting in a substantial improvement in the overall condition of the town's dustbins.

For many years, the main disposal point for Farnworth's refuse has been at Darley Tip, where a system of controlled tipping has operated. This ceased at the end of 1970, when a new refuse incineration plant was opened in Bolton. By arrangement with Bolton Corporation, Farnworth's refuse is now disposed of at this plant.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

For several years, this section of the Report has been confined to a few critical lines, remarking on the generally unsatisfactory position concerning public conveniences in the town. Last year, the hope was expressed that there would be something more positive to report in 1970. This was slightly over-optimistic—the long-awaited new conveniences in the Town Centre were not completed until January 1971. An appraisal of these new conveniences will therefore have to wait until the 1971 Report. Meanwhile, there remains the problem of deciding on the future of the conveniences in other parts of the town, the general condition of which leaves much to be desired.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

This work engaged the full-time services of the Department's Rodent Operative throughout the year. In all, 550 requests for treatment against rodents and pests were received and dealt with during 1970. A wide range of pests was encountered, including rats, mice, rabbits, fleas, bugs, wasps, bees, silverfish, beetles, cockroaches, crickets and flies.

In addition to dealing with surface infestations of rats, the Operative supervised the treatment with fluoracetamide poison of 1,700 sewer manholes, which is done by a specialist firm of contractors. Poisoning of rats in the sewers is an essential factor in rodent control work.

Details of rodent control inspections and treatments carried out in 1970 are given in Tables 9 and 10.

TABLE 9.

RODENT CONTROL

Properties other than sewers

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
(a) Number of properties in district	10,944	3
(b) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	626	-
(c) Number of (b) infested by —		
rats	202	-
mice	304	-
(d) Total number of properties inspected for rats and / or mice for reasons other than notification	255	-
(e) Number of (d) infested by —		
rats	25	-
mice	-	-

TABLE 10
SEWER TREATMENTS

<i>Dates of Treatment</i>	<i>Number of Sewer Manholes Treated</i>
January/February, 1970	600
June, 1970	400
August, 1970	400
September, 1970	300
	<hr/>
	1700
	<hr/>

FACTORIES

The Register of Factories, as required to be kept by the Factories Acts, contains the addresses of 126 factories. Of these 122 are provided with mechanical power.

Most of the inspection and enforcement work in factories is done by H.M. Factory Inspectorate. During the year 37 factory visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors.

The prescribed particulars on administration of the Factories Acts, as requested by the Department of Employment and Productivity, are given in Table 11.

TABLE 11.
FACTORIES ACT, 1961
PART I OF THE ACT

1. **INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) during 1970.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspect- ions (3)	Written notices (4)	Occu- piers prosecu- ted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities... ..	4	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	122	35	5	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	2	2	—	—
Total ...	128	39	5	—

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted— (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conven- iences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	7	7	Nil	6	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	9	9	Nil	6	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Making of wearing apparel	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Paper-work	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

PET SHOPS

Four premises are licensed as Pet Shops under the Pet Animals Act, 1951. All the premises were visited during the year and found satisfactory.

BOARDING KENNELS

There is one establishment in the Borough licensed under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963. The premises, which are licensed to keep a maximum of 30 dogs and 20 cats, were conducted in a generally satisfactory manner.

OFFICES AND SHOPS

At the end of the year there were 204 premises on the register required to be kept by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. The register showed a total of 1148 persons employed in these premises.

It is considered necessary for all premises on the register to have a general inspection at least once every three years. The last cycle of inspections covering all premises was made in 1968. A further round is therefore due in 1971.

During 1970, the number of visits made to registered premises was 164, including 134 general inspections. As in 1969, the time available for this work in the year under review was limited by other commitments.

The Act requires occupiers of registered premises to notify the occurrence of accidents causing injury to their employees. Three notifications were received in 1970. One of these was of a minor character, but the other two were more serious, both being accidents with mechanically-propelled stacking trucks in wholesale food warehouses. In one of these cases, the injuries sustained by an employee resulted in his foot having to be amputated.

Tables 12, 13 and 14 give details of premises, persons employed, and contraventions found on inspection.

TABLE 12.
OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

	Offices	Retail shops	Whole-sale shops, ware-houses	Catering establishments open to public, canteens	Fuel storage depots
Number of registered premises at end of year.	38	124	10	30	2
Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.	26	98	6	4	-
Number of exemptions current at end of year:					
Space (S.5.(2))	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temperature (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.9)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Washing facilities (S.10)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

TABLE 13
Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	249
Retail Shops	543
Wholesale departments, warehouses	112
Catering establishments open to public	200
Canteens	17
Fuel storage depots	27
Total	1148
Total Males	429
Total Females	719

TABLE 14.

**Analysis of Contraventions found in Registered Premises
during 1970**

<i>Contraventions</i>	<i>Number found</i>
Cleanliness	28
Temperature	1
Lighting	4
Accommodation for clothing	1
Floors, passages and stairs	12
Sanitary conveniences	10
Washing facilities	7
First Aid	6
Dangerous conditions	2
	—
Total ...	71
	—

STAFF

The Department was again fully staffed throughout the year, with consequent benefit to the output of work. Although housing, especially clearance, and smoke control were the main preoccupations, routine activities such as meat and food inspection, nuisance abatement, drainage inspection and rodent control took up a great deal of the Inspectors' time. The number of recorded complaints received in the Department and attended to during the year was 928. The majority were concerned with housing, nuisances, rodents and other pests, and drainage. Table 15 gives details of the 9,486 visits made during the year.

Mr. Colin L. Garside, Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, resigned at the end of the year to take up a senior appointment with Newton-le-Willows Urban District Council. His service at Farnworth totalled thirteen years, beginning as a pupil Public Health Inspector in 1957.

TABLE 15.

VISITS MADE DURING 1970

PUBLIC HEALTH

Repair of houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	630
Disinfestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Accumulations and tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	544
Drainage visits	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	335
Drain tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Public sewers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Keeping of animals and birds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	123
Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	604

HOUSING

Housing surveys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	273
Individual unfit houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	88
Houses in Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	652
Cleared sites or demolition in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	221
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Houses in multiple occupation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	179
Improvement Areas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Building Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30

FOOD

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	496
Butchers shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	167
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Confectioners shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Sweet shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fish & Chip shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Restaurants, cafes and canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Market stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	254
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Food Hygiene Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	305
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Milk samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice cream samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Inspection of unsound food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	137
Food vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Food hawkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Other food visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19

